

REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	07 July 1998
Name of applicant/court:	Comptroller of Customs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Paul
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Star Distributors
Author:	Not Stated
Format:	Book
Country of Origin:	USA
Language:	English

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Components of film originally examined:

Feature:	Not Applicable	Running time:
Trailers:		Running time:
		Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

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Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on Not Applicable

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The book entitled *Paul* is classified as:
Objectionable.

This work of fiction promotes and supports the use of violence and coercion to compel a person to participate in and submit to sexual conduct. The book contains protracted detailed descriptions of a male being humiliated, coerced and blackmailed into transvestism, male to male sexual activity, and activity with transsexual females.

Towards the end the book claims the purpose of the above behaviour was merely to allow the central character the freedom to become a transvestite. This does not mitigate the impact of coercing someone into sexual activity by means of physical restraint, physical violence, administering electric shocks to their genitals and threatening to shoot them. This information has been presented in a straightforward manner and sustained as fact for much of the publication, therefore giving it support and substance.

Consideration has been given to the provisions of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act). However, s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act) applies to this publication. Therefore s14 of the NZBR Act does not apply because FVPC Act s3(2) criteria are deeming provisions which cannot be given a meaning consistent with the rights and freedoms set out in s14 of the NZBR Act.

OFLC Ref: 9700842